USSN: 10/598,760 Art Unit: 1794

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1. (Currently amended) A method of promoting the growth of beneficial bacteria in the gut of a human in need thereof, which comprises administering to said human a composition comprising an effective consisting of an amount of a dark fruit selected from blackcurrant, blackberry, strawberry, blueberry, pomegranate, plum, grape, raspberry, eranberry, redcurrant, cherry or a mixture of two or more thereof effective to promote the growth of beneficial bacteria and concomitantly reduce the growth of harmful bacteria in the gut of said human; and which optionally contains a probiotic as a prebiotic.
- 2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the dark fruit is in the form of fruit juice.
- 3. (cancelled)
- 4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the dark fruit is blackcurrant, cranberry, pomegranate or a mixture of two or more thereof.
- 5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the composition is a beverage.
- 6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 5 wherein the composition is a beverage concentrate comprising 1-40% (v/v) single strength fruit juice.
- 7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 5 wherein the composition is ready to drink beverage comprising 1-20% (v/v) single strength fruit juice.

USSN: 10/598,760 Art Unit: 1794

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the composition is in the form of a liquid, a semi-solid or a solid.

10. (Cancelled)